

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting
May 23, 2016, 5:30-6:30 pm
Town Hall Rm 217

Members in attendance: Chris Bennett, Michael Esernia, Jennifer Strassfeld, Brian Clifford, Terry Schmitt, John Minze

Non-members in attendance: Helen Rubino-Turco

Members absent: Sarah Needham, Brian Steckroth

1. Introductions – welcome new member (Terry Schmitt)
2. Off-leash Proposal – Patricia Bonsignore, West Hartford resident
 - a. Ms. Bonsignore gave an overview of the program in Brookline, MA
 - b. Discussion around possible costs and how to off-set them
 - c. Discussion around the differences between this proposal and the dog park proposal
 - d. Ms. Bonsignore is going to continue to socialize the idea and begin to gather signatures
 - e. The board encouraged her to keep us apprised of progress
 - f. No vote was taken
3. Construction Update
 - a. Goodrich Soccer Complex on Flatbush (recently renamed to Glover Soccer Complex)
 - i. Construction is complete
 - ii. Memorial day ribbon cutting scheduled
 - iii. Will be unveiling a memorial bench in honor of Lee-An Flaherty
 - b. Cornerstone
 - i. External construction is complete
 - ii. Will be focused on the internal remodeling – increasing family and disability-supportive changing rooms and showers.
 - c. Beachland Pool
 - i. The goal is to open the pool on schedule this summer
 - ii. If the schedule is delayed further, the town may take over the project
 - iii. Splash pad won't be open for Memorial Day weekend, but hopefully it will open soon after
4. UConn Lights
 - a. The project received TPZ approval
 - b. The project is now being put out to bid and it looks like a Fall timeline
 - c. Community outreach was conducted, and on-going
5. UCONN Property Sale
 - a. As has been reported, the town is looking to purchase the property
 - b. Entering a period of due diligence this summer.
 - c. The discussion of “what could happen” with the land will begin in earnest this Fall, and the Board will play an active role.
 - d. The Board will set aside extra time to discuss possible uses.
6. Celebrate West Hartford!
 - a. Scheduled for June 4th and 5th
 - b. Had over 1,000 runners in the 5k last year

- c. The event is earlier this year because of the school year calendar
- 7. Feast on the Farm
 - a. Scheduled for Friday, September 30th
 - b. The event will benefit Westmoor Park
 - c. The money will be used to repair the 'vintage' barn and replace the roof
 - d. Solar panels are being installed on the roof
- 8. Two vacancy on the board presently
- 9. Next meeting will be June 20th